



**Tax center savings so far:**  
  
Federal refunds: \$4,199,174  
State refunds: \$448,600  
Prep fee savings: \$334,758  
Returns filed: 3,533



**Sure shot:  
CWO-2 aims  
high at shooting  
championships**

... page 3



**Friday:** Stormy  
High: 73 Low: 51  
**Saturday:** Cloudy  
High: 74 Low: 52  
**Sunday:** Sunny  
High: 83 Low: 56

Serving Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona

# DESERT WARRIOR

Volume 8, Number 14

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April 9, 2009



Photo by Lance Cpl. Austin Hazard

**Lt. Col. John “Sugar” Cane, Marine Attack Squadron 311 commanding officer, taxis out to the runway at the VMA-311 hangar here to fly to Naval Air Station Key West, Fla., Monday. Approximately 170 Marines and 10 AV-8B Harriers went to Key West to participate in large-scale air-to-air combat training with the Navy and Air Force.**

## VMA-311 battles Navy, Air Force birds

**Lance Cpl. Austin Hazard**  
Desert Warrior Staff

Marine Attack Squadron 311 Marines traveled to Naval Air Station Key West, Fla., Monday to catch up on squadron training that has been delayed by repeated deployments. Approximately 170 Marines and 10 AV-8B Harriers are participating in air-to-air combat training with the Navy’s aggressor squadron, Composite Fighter Squadron 111. VMA-311 will also train with the Air Force’s 93rd Fighter Squadron from Air Reserve Base Homestead, Fla., and the 176th Fighter Squadron from the Wisconsin Air National Guard. VMA-311’s 20 pilots will fly against Navy and Air Force F-5Ns and F-16Cs in simulated dogfights. “Because of the Operation Iraqi Freedom deployments that have been going on for the past five years, the squadron has

kind of fallen behind in air-to-air training,” said Maj. Andrew Diviney, VMA-311 operations officer. For that reason, VMA-311 organized the majority of its Marines, including its commanding officer and executive officer, into a training detachment, leaving behind as many as needed to manage the squadron’s hangar and support the current Weapons and Tactics Instructor course. While in Florida, the squadron will refresh aerial combat skills for its experienced pilots and certify its newer ones, ensuring everyone has the same training. This training is the first time in at least three years that VMA-311 has committed to large-scale air-to-air combat training, said Diviney. Since the Corps’ current operations don’t call for air-to-air combat, the training gets set aside for more relevant combat scenarios.

see VMA-311 page 4

## Mullen cites high priority of Afghanistan-Pakistan strategy

**Jim Garamone**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Executing President Barack Obama’s strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan is the U.S. military’s top priority, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told defense leaders from Central Asia who met here March 31. Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, spoke to defense leaders from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan at a conference sponsored by U.S. Central Command. Mullen said the situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan requires Americans to look at the situation through the eyes of the people in the region. “This is why conferences like this are so important. This is an opportunity to address the challenges together. It will provide a better path for us all to succeed,” said Mullen. Wending its way through Congress is a bill that would provide \$1.5 billion in nonmilitary aid to Pakistan, Mullen said. The money would funnel through Pakistani agencies to pay for schools, hospitals, roads, agricultural aid and many other things. It would show the Pakistanis that the United States will confront the root causes of extremism. Mullen stressed that the nations must maintain communications, and said young officers and noncommissioned officers need to meet and understand one another and each others’ nations. Building relationships among members of the various militaries will pay off better than simply providing equipment. The trends in Afghanistan and Pakistan are worrisome, the chairman acknowledged. Violence is up in both countries, and many people in both countries identify with the Taliban. The comprehensive strategy attacks extremism where it resides. America’s main target in the region remains al-Qaida. “Al-Qaida is the group that killed 3,000 Americans,” Mullen said. “They live there. They are not going away. They are plotting against us as we speak.”

see AFGHANISTAN page 4

## SecNav recognizes air station for pollution prevention efforts

**Lance Cpl. Austin Hazard**  
Desert Warrior Staff

The station recently won a 2008 secretary of the Navy environmental award for pollution prevention on a non-industrial installation. Yuma will also be considered for the 2008 secretary of defense environmental award for the same category, competing against the different armed services. “This demonstrates to the community that Marine Corps Air Station Yuma is a good steward to the land that has been entrusted to it,” said Dave Rodriguez, station environmental director. “This prestigious award would not have been possible without the support of the commanding officer, my complete environmental staff and all the Marines, sailors and civilian Marines who support our efforts.” The station won the award for projects it implemented to lessen its environmental impact. These projects include water conservation, energy efficiency efforts, range sustainment and hazardous material consolidation. The water and energy projects focus on minimizing the station’s draw from local



Photo by Robyn Vidas

A member of the station’s environmental range sustainment team gathers range debris into piles at the Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range in California using an excavator in December 2008. The station’s range sustainment program collects, destroys and recycles hazardous debris on the Barry M. Goldwater and Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Ranges. So far, the project has removed and demilitarized approximately 2 million tons of range debris, composed of munitions, targets and other scrap material. resources while saving money. They do this by replacing high-maintenance vegetation with local plant life, which requires much less water, and by installing solar panels throughout the station. Local well water is used to irrigate most areas on station, allowing for treated water to be used for drinking. Since the treated water is used substantially less for irrigation, the station releases fewer chemicals into the environment. By using solar

see POLLUTION page 4

## Station ATC takes on more airspace

**Lance Cpl. Josue Aguirre**  
Desert Warrior Staff

Beginning this summer Yuma’s air traffic controllers are scheduled to start watching the skies over the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif., adding 8,000 square miles of airspace to their area of responsibility. Already managing the airspace surrounding the station, its ranges and Yuma Proving Ground, the consolidation is the second step in making Yuma home to the largest and most complex air traffic control facility in the Department of Defense. The final phase would add ATC responsibility for Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif., to Yuma by 2014.

“I think it’s a cutting edge initiative,” said Lt. Col. Thomas Frederick, Twentynine Palms Marine Air-Ground Task Force Training Command operations officer. “When it’s all said and done, an ATC system in the southwest region of the United States will be in place that exists nowhere else on earth. This will significantly expand the Marine Corps and Navy training possibilities.” Currently, Twentynine Palms uses their range operations department to manage the military training airspace while Federal Aviation Administration controllers manage the airspace immediately surrounding Twentynine Palms. According to Frederick, one goal is the ability to redirect missions, aided by Marine air traffic controllers who possess better awareness and insight of large-scale military training exercises than FAA controllers. Pilots can go out on a training exercise that suddenly changes while performing it, said Frederick. Yuma ATC is well suited to coordinate and ease activities in any type of scenario. This ATC centralization program allows



Photo by Lance Cpl. Josue Aguirre

**Gunnery Sgt. Ricardo Clayton, station air traffic controller, monitors range air traffic from the station ATC tower here Wednesday. By the end of the summer, station air traffic controllers like Clayton, will manage not only Yuma airspace, but also that of Twentynine Palms, Calif. The air station is also slated to take control of Naval Air Facility El Centro, Calif., airspace as part of the Radar Regionalization Program.**

see ATC page 4



# SecDef slashes budget, sends more funds to JSF

Leo Shane III  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON—Defense Secretary Robert Gates on Monday announced sweeping cuts and a significant shift in priorities for next year’s defense budget, with more money for servicemembers and federal employees but less for some major defense contractors.

While other systems saw large cuts, the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter will see an increase of \$4.4 billion to buy 513 aircraft throughout the next five years.

Calling his plan a “reform budget,” Gates said he would eliminate the \$11 billion VH-71 Presidential Helicopter program, end production of the F-22 Raptor at 187 aircraft, negotiate less expansive ways to build three DDG-1000 destroyers and drop the \$87 billion vehicle portion of the Army’s Future Combat Systems program.

“I decided I would not take the political issues associated with any of these projects into account,” said Gates. “I decided I would just do what’s right for this country.”

Gates also detailed moves designed to strengthen personnel programs and “lessons learned from Iraq and Afghanistan.”

The budget includes \$500 million more than fiscal 2009 for recruiting and training helicopter maintenance crews, a major need for current missions overseas. Another \$400 million will go toward new medical research and \$300 million more to supplement existing traumatic brain injury and post traumatic stress disorder programs.

The military’s special operations forces ranks will be increased by nearly 3,000 next year, and the Pentagon will triple the number of students in its cybersecurity programs. Gates announced plans to hire up to 30,000 new government employees to replace contractor slots for the next five years with 13,000 in 2010 alone.

Last week, the House and Senate passed separate budget outlines for fiscal 2010, both calling for about \$534 billion in defense spending next year, not including funds for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. That’s up nearly 4 percent from fiscal 2009 levels.

But both the White House and Congress have promised major changes in defense acquisition this year, and Gates on Monday said this plan represents a call for more fiscal responsibility by defense planners.

“There has been broad agreement on the need for defense acquisition reform,” said Gates. “We’ve had enough hand-wringing. Now is the time for action.”

Pentagon officials have been tight-lipped about details of the defense budget for weeks. Gates made those involved in the process sign a nondisclosure agreement, and lawmakers did not receive any details until shortly before the public announcement of the plan.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said defense industry leaders weren’t given any advanced notice of the budget cuts.

Gates insisted the new budget does not ignore future threats in order to focus on immediate ones.

He estimates approximately 10 percent of the total figure will go toward irregular warfare projects, 50 percent for conventional warfighting and 40 percent for dual-purpose programs.

The budget also plans to hold the Navy’s future aircraft carrier fleet at 10, down from the current 12. That was one of several major cuts for the Navy, including a halt to the CGX cruiser program and a delay in production of an 11th Landing Platform Dock Ship.

But the budget plan would accelerate the purchase of Navy littoral combat ships, which are designed for close-shore support missions. Plans had called for two next year; now, the Pentagon will buy three and plan for a fleet of 55 in coming years.

Gates said that the missile defense program will also see cuts while officials re-evaluate ground-based interceptor systems.

Those decisions on missile defense come after North Korea’s launch of a long-range missile last weekend. While U.S. officials said North Korea failed to put a satellite into orbit, the test shows that North Korea can successfully fire a two-stage missile, said Bruce Bennett, defense analyst for the RAND Corp.

Gates said he does not think the delay in those missile defense system will endanger U.S. forces or allies, noting plans to ramp up purchase of proven programs like the Patriot missile.

While the plan supports the continued growth in Army end strength to 547,000, it would hold the number of brigade combat teams at 45 instead of the planned 48. Gates said the change would allow for better-staffed BCTs, reducing the need for stop-lossed troops to fill in the gaps.

Lawmakers will begin hearings on the defense budget when Congress returns from break later this month.

## Street Talk

What do you think of the traffic change to two-way streets?



“It’s convenient. It’s still kind of weird getting used to it.”  
—Sgt. Eddie Goodwin  
MAL5-13



“I love it. Instead of having to drive six blocks, I only have to drive the one-and-a-half to get to my parking spot.”  
—Shelley Hill  
Marine spouse



“I like it because it gets me to the clinic quicker, but it still takes some getting used to.”  
—Lt. Jayson Huber  
Dental Clinic



“I haven’t been here that long, but my friends who have are still going the long way around because they’re just not used to it.”  
—Pfc. Shawlimar Little  
MAL5-13



“They changed it to one-way streets right before I got here, I definitely like it better how it is now.”  
—Cpl. Andrzej Prokop  
H&HS



“It’s back to normal. I’ve been here that long. It’s quicker, for sure.”  
—Gunnery Sgt. Jason Zuehlke  
MAL5-13

## Mush!



Photo by Lance Cpl. Graham J. Benson

Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 13’s Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear section pull a humvee at the MAG-13 Headquarters field meet held here Friday at Ramada Field. The MAG property section won the competition. The morale-boosting event provided an opportunity for competition between different MAG-13 Headquarters work sections and a cookout for the Marines and their families.

## DESERT WARRIOR

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# ON TARGET: Yuma Marine guns down opposition at West Coast shooting competition

Cpl. M. Daniel Sanchez  
Desert Warrior Staff

After taking top honors in the Western Division Matches, a Yuma Marine is heading to the Marine Corps championship matches at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Monday through April 24.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Allen Young, station marksmanship training unit officer in charge, earned the West Coast pistol shooter title after outgunning more than 200 other competitors March 2-20 at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Despite already being a distinguished pistol shooter, Young was surprised at his performance.

“I knew I was going to do really well, but to say I was going to finish first, I didn’t expect that,” he said.

The competition pitted Young and six other Yuma Marines against teams from throughout various West Coast installations and even one civilian team.



**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Allen Young, station marksmanship training unit officer in charge, sets up an ammunition screen to protect his face from getting hit by other shooters' discharged cartridges March 31 at the station's pistol range.**

Each participant was required to shoot using both the rifle—either an M-16A2 or M-16A4—and the M-9 pistol, firing from three different distances with each weapon.

The three teams with the highest two-day scores were awarded gold, silver and brass trophies, while the top 10 percent of individual rifle and pistol shooters, excluding distinguished shooters, were each awarded medals.

Young was one of a few Marines awarded a Secretary of the Navy M-1 rifle trophy.

Although Yuma’s team did not place high enough during the division match to move on to the Corps’ championship matches, the members are excited



Photos by Cpl. M. Daniel Sanchez

**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Allen Young, station marksmanship training unit officer in charge, demonstrates his shooting stance that enabled him to take top honors at the Corps' Western Division shooting matches held at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 2-20. His victory earned him a spot in the Marine Corps championships held at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Monday through April 24.**

to have one of their own in the championships.

“That guy is phenomenal,” said Gunnery Sgt. Robert Galan, first-time shooting team member. “He is going to do great at the Marine Corps matches.”

The team members were also pleased to be able to compete and to hone their marksmanship skills.

“It was a tremendous experience. We met so many people from all over the West Coast,” said Sgt. Pavel Karpolyuk. “It definitely improved my shooting skills. I was able to polish the small details.”

The key to marksmanship is fundamentals, said Young. That is one

of the great things about being able to compete at the division matches; Marines are able to fine tune their fundamentals and get advice from the best shooters in the Corps.

Before leaving for the championships, Young had some advice to all Marines looking to improve their marksmanship skills.

“Shooting is 70 percent mental and 30 percent physical. It’s what’s between the ears that differentiate shooters,” said Young.

The other Yuma Marines who competed at the division matches were Gunnery Sgt. Jimmy Foster, Sgt. Lashaun Charles, Cpl. Matthew Morton and Lance Cpl. James Brand.

## Station ATV riders urged to tread lightly at sand dunes

Cpl. Laura A. Mapes  
Desert Warrior Staff

Since 2003, roughly 65 off-road deaths have occurred at the Imperial Sand Dunes in California, just 30 miles west of the air station.

The most recent death hit a little closer to home for some station Marines.

A Marine with Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 died March 7 after his all-terrain vehicle rolled over him in the dunes.

Due to the recent incident, Master Sgt. Russell Reale, Search and Rescue maintenance chief, held a voluntary ATV safety brief for Marines here April 2 at the SAR hangar.

“We had a Marine that just died in the dunes, and to me that is preventable,” said Reale.

Although the riding season is almost over, Reale wanted to get a message of safety out for those who will continue to ride this summer.

“The No. 1 cause of fatality out in the dunes is a lack of terrain familiarity,” said Joya Szalwinski, a Bureau of Land Management park ranger at Imperial Sand Dunes, who spoke at the brief. “Not knowing the area you are riding can be disastrous.”

During the brief, Szalwinski reviewed the weather and topography of the dunes. She urged riders to be cautious when off-roading and to watch out for dangerous terrain.

“When the wind starts shifting around during the summer, the sand is going to start stacking up, and that is where you get slip faces and razor edges,” said Szalwinski. “A witch’s eye is a hole or divot in the sand caused by wind. If you find yourself in a witch’s eye, you’ve got nowhere to go and you’re stuck.”

Riding in the dunes in the middle of the day, when the sun is directly overhead, is also ill-advised because the sun can eliminate shadows and the dunes can become deceiving and dangerous, said Szalwinski.

One tip for avoiding trouble in the sand dunes is to stay with the vehicle if it gets stuck, because the farther away from the vehicle riders are, the harder it is for them to be found.

“The key is to be prepared,” said Szalwinski. “Bring your water, first aid, a tool kit and extra parts, and always wear your personal protective equipment.”

The sand at the dunes can reach upward of 120 degrees in the summer when heat exhaustion and heat strokes are not uncommon.

“Heat injuries are a big deal out here, so we really urge you to drink water,” said Szalwinski.

“Three to five gallons per day may seem like a lot, but it is the difference that could save your life.”

Reale took the riders out to the dunes the next day to practice what they learned on their ATVs and dirt bikes.

“My intent behind this is to have the more experienced riders pass on their knowledge of the dunes to the inexperienced rider,” said Reale.

While the riding season ends in May, Reale plans to hold an all-hands safety brief when the season starts in September.

“Some of the riders in this class have been riding for years, but are inexperienced in the dunes,” said Capt. Dan Moench, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron training officer. “The class was extremely helpful and taught us how to read the terrain.”



Photos by Cpl. Laura A. Mapes

**Above, Master Sgt. Russell Reale, Search and Rescue maintenance chief, rides his all-terrain vehicle at the Imperial Sand Dunes in California Friday. Reale held a voluntary ATV safety brief for station Marines April 2 and took them to the dunes the following day to ride. Left, Marines ride through the Imperial Sand Dunes in California Friday.**



**Sgt. Joseph Moran, Search and Rescue aviation technician, kicks up sand at the Imperial Sand Dunes in California while riding with fellow Marines Friday.**



VMA-311 ... from page 1

“It’s a good opportunity to get everyone to focus on something we don’t typically do, especially with our operational tempo,” said Capt. Scott Farrar, VMA-311 flight officer. “It’s a good chance for the new guys, like me, to get a look at the capabilities of our aircraft.”

Since the F-16 is flown by many countries across the world and the F-5 is flown by several countries designated as potential threats, this training teaches the pilots the capabilities of enemy

ATC ... from page 1

Yuma ATC to assume control of the FAA’s portion in Twentynine Palms, providing improved communication and coordination.

“Marine Corps air traffic control provides an essential link between Marine Corps aviation and the flying public,” said Maj. Lawrence Dibble, station command airspace liaison officer.

POLLUTION ... from page 1

energy, the station is employing an environmentally friendly source, reducing its draw from less environmentally safe sources.

The range sustainment program involves cleaning up the station’s ranges. With the program, the environmental department has removed much of the hazardous debris on the Barry M. Goldwater and Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Ranges.

“We’ve removed and demilitarized approximately 2 million tons of range debris, which includes the remnants of munitions, targets and anything else out there,” said Robyn Vida, environmental range sustainment

AFGHANISTAN ... from page 1

The Taliban in both Afghanistan and Pakistan give these foreign extremists safe haven, Mullen said.

“It’s my view [that] if we don’t get Afghanistan right, Afghanistan becomes a safe haven again for the same group. That’s why defeating al-Qaida is the single most important part of this strategy,” said Mullen.

Mullen stressed the civilian portion of the comprehensive plan, and said the United States has learned from its experience in Iraq.

aircraft, said Farrar.

Since Key West has its own aggressor squadron, it’s a good place to train, said Diviney.

“Key West is a naval base that is surrounded by water, and because it’s surrounded by water, it’s surrounded by great air-to-air ranges,” said Diviney.

VMA-311 is scheduled to return April 25.

The first phase of the program, completed in 2007, upgraded the station ATC radar. Quality and coverage from the radar improved and a weather tracking capability was added.

The upgrade also made accommodations for additional ATC control positions and multiple radar feeds for off-site

locations such as Twentynine Palms.

The remote radars at Twentynine Palms and El Centro will send communication feeds back to the Yuma ATC tower.

“The Yuma ATC function ties it all together,” said Frederick. “Without that piece, it all falls apart.”

“I think this shows that we are operating in an environmentally sound manner,” said Christian Kost, environmental protection specialist. “It shows that we live by our policy.”

Col. Mark Werth, station commanding officer, Rodriguez and a selected station environmental employee will travel to Washington to receive the award from the secretary of the Navy during a ceremony at the Pentagon, May 28.

“MCAS Yuma is known throughout the Marine Corps for setting the standard,” said Vida. “It says a lot when a small installation sets the example for the larger ones.”

“We don’t have a good track record,” he said. “In Iraq, it took us a couple of years to generate the kind of capacity that we need to generate this year and get in place in Afghanistan.”

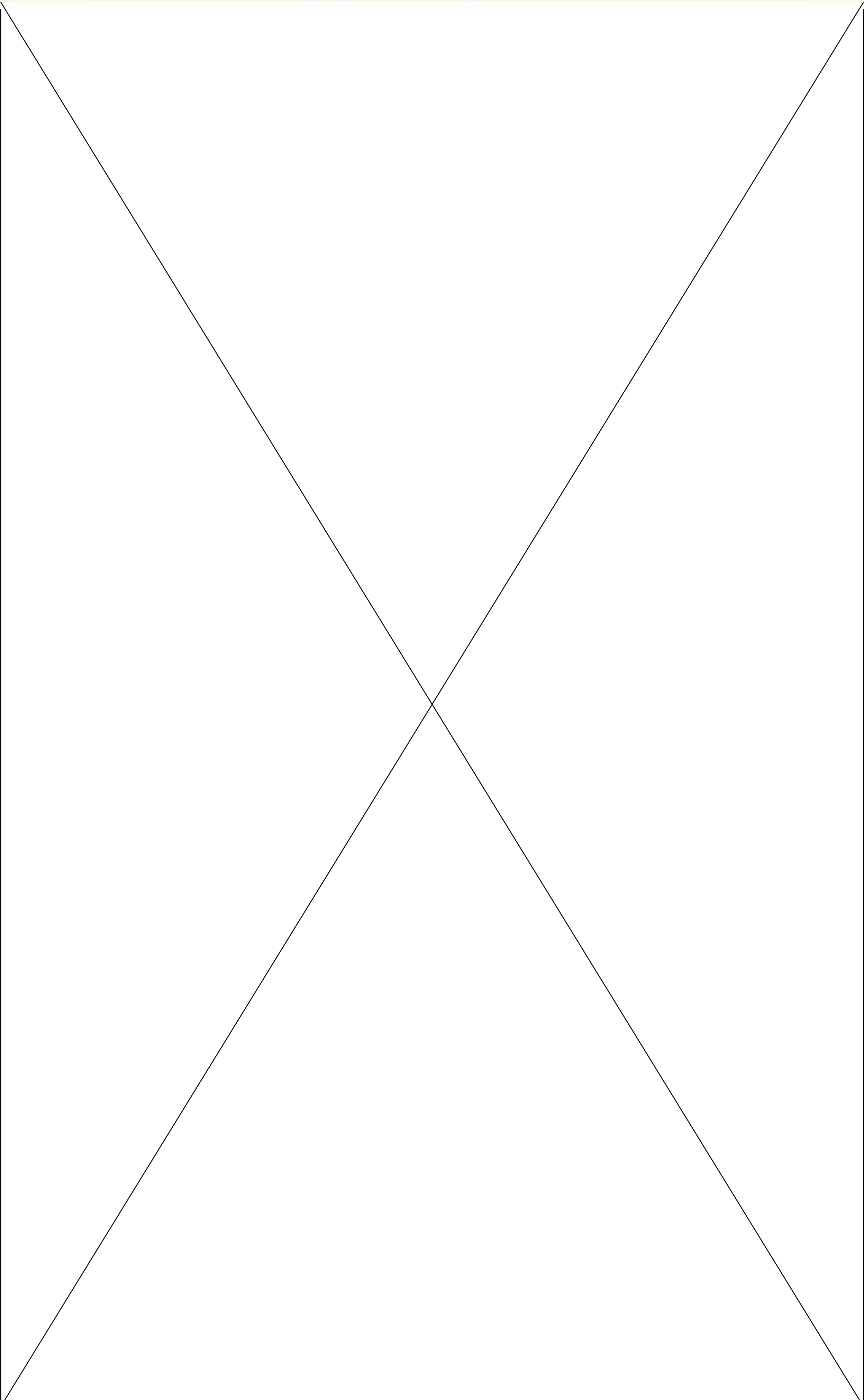
“There’s a sense of urgency that we must deliver otherwise the whole thing just gets drawn out to the right,” he continued. “The military side isn’t enough—can’t do it alone. We need to generate this capacity to support these elections to get to the governance level at every level—local, provincial and national—as quickly as possible.”

# Hanging out



Photo by Cpl. Laura A. Mapes

**An emergency medical technician with the station fire department rappels a simulated victim down the wall of the station’s burn tower March 31. The fire department spent a week learning rope and rappel techniques taught by firefighters from across the country.**





# AT EASE

## News to Use

### HQMC cuts 28 more re-enlistment bonuses

The Marine Corps has canceled first-term re-enlistment bonuses for fiscal year 2009 in 28 more military occupational specialties effective April 20, following the 22 bonuses canceled March 9.

Bonuses are canceled when an MOS meets its minimum retention goal for the year, though the goal may not be 100 percent, leaving some available spaces for Marines to re-enlist.

The newest MOSs no longer offering selective re-enlistment bonuses are: 0481, 0811, 1142, 1161, 1171, 2651, 3381, 3533, 4341, 4421, 4612, 5939, 5954, 5974, 6042, 6048, 6113, 6132, 6312, 6313, 6333, 6412, 6463, 6482, 6483, 7051, 7212 and 7314.

Overall, bonuses have been canceled for 96 MOSs Corpwide.

Marines may still receive re-enlistment bonuses by lateral moving into MOSs where bonuses are still available. As of March 17, 61 MOSs still had bonuses and were open for lateral moves.

For lists of MOSs with canceled bonuses, see MarAdmins 52/09, 158/09 and 184/09.

### Free SAT/ACT prep programs available

The eKnowledge Corporation is offering free SAT and ACT preparation programs for military families for the fourth consecutive year.

The programs, which are DVD and CD-ROM-based, are available to active, reserve and retired service members and their families.

The program includes 120 classroom video lessons, composed of video instruction and interactive learning.

To apply for a free program, go to [www.eknowledge.com/military](http://www.eknowledge.com/military). For more information, contact Lori Caputo at 770-992-0900.

## Tailspotter

**Georgia is a 3-year-old Staffordshire Bull Terrier mix and great with kids. She has been fully vaccinated and microchipped, and she is awaiting her spay appointment.**

*All pets found on station are turned in to the Humane Society of Yuma. The Society has dozens of dogs and cats in need of good homes. Cost of adoptions include immunizations, spaying or neutering the animal, a free veterinary checkup, a microchip and 30 days of pet insurance. For more information, call 928-782-1621.*



Photo courtesy of Humane Society of Yuma

## Safe & Smart Calendar

The following courses are offered by the station's safety department:

**Alive at 25:** required for all Marines 25 & under

- April 13, 27
- May 4, 11, 18

**Basic Motorcycle Riders Course**

- May 5-7, 19-21

**Experienced Motorcycle Riders Course**

- April 14
- May 12

**Sport Bike Riders Course**

- April 17
- May 15

**Attitudinal Defensive Driving**

- April 30
- May 28

All classes begin at 8 a.m. in building 460.

In order to register for any motorcycle classes, riders must have motorcycles inspected by a unit motorcycle representative or at the station safety office. See Paul Lasko Fridays at 9 a.m. at building 460 for inspections.

Helmets and gloves can be provided for riders taking motorcycle courses. Riders must wear hard soled boots or shoes and a long-sleeved shirt or riding jacket. Protective equipment must be in serviceable condition.

Trainer motorcycles are available for students on a first-come, first-served basis. Students who own a motorcycle should take the course on their own vehicles.

For more information or to register for a class, call Belinda Henson at 928-269-5699. Classes are first-come, first-served and class schedules are subject to change. Students will be informed of any changes prior to the actual class date.

## In Theaters

### Thursday

Friday the 13th (R)  
7 p.m.

### Friday

The Pink Panther 2 (PG)  
6 p.m.

The International (R)  
9 p.m.

### Saturday

Coraline (PG)  
4 p.m.

Fired Up (PG-13)  
7 p.m.

### Sunday

Coraline (PG)  
5 p.m.

### Monday

Friday the 13th (R)  
7 p.m.

### Tuesday

The International (R)  
7 p.m.

### Wednesday

**\*Free admission\***

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG)  
7 p.m.

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE  
Call 928-269-2358 or visit  
<http://www.yuma.usmc-mccs.org/theater.htm>



## MESS HALL MENU

### Every day

Breakfast: 5 - 7:30 a.m.  
Lunch: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Dinner: 4 - 6:30 p.m.

### Prices

For military without meal cards  
Breakfast: \$2.30  
Lunch and dinner: \$4.25

HOURS OF OPERATION

## THURSDAY

**LUNCH:** Cream of Broccoli Soup  
Italian Beef & Rice  
Turkey Monterey  
Paprika Buttered Potatoes  
Wax Beans  
Peas

**DINNER:** Grilled Ham Steak  
Beef Stroganoff  
Buttered Egg Noodles  
Au Gratin Potatoes  
Squash & Carrots Medley  
Green Beans

## FRIDAY

**LUNCH:** Clam Chowder  
Tater Tot Casserole  
Parmesan Fish  
Rice Pilaf  
Glazed Carrots  
Broccoli

**DINNER:** Cajun Roast Beef  
Fried Chicken  
Red Beans & Rice  
Mashed Potatoes  
Collard Greens  
Dinner Rolls

## SATURDAY

**BRUNCH:** Eggs  
Turkey Noodle Soup  
Cold Cereals  
Sausage Patties  
Oven-fried Bacon  
... and more

**DINNER:** Beef Lasagna  
Caribbean Chicken Breast  
Cilantro Rice  
Green Beans  
Summer Squash  
Garlic Bread

## SUNDAY

**BRUNCH:** Eggs  
Grilled Ham Slices  
Oven-fried Bacon  
Pancakes / Waffles  
Chicken Sandwich  
... and more

**DINNER:** Teriyaki Beef Strips  
Baked Stuffed Fish  
Baked Macaroni & Cheese  
Ginger Rice  
Mixed Vegetables  
Stewed Tomatoes

## MONDAY

**LUNCH:** Vegetable Soup  
Chicken Cacciatore  
Chicago-style,  
Open-faced Sandwich  
Steamed Rice  
Green Beans w/ Mushrooms

**DINNER:** Meatloaf  
Cuban Pork Lion  
Mashed Potatoes  
Orange Rice  
Wax Beans  
Simmered Carrots

## TUESDAY

**LUNCH:** Turkey Noodle Soup  
Veal Parmesan  
Honey Lemon Chicken  
Spaghetti  
w/ Marinara Sauce  
Long Grain & Wild Rice

**DINNER:** Country-style Steak  
Greek Lemon Turkey Pasta  
Mashed Potatoes  
Black-eyed Peas  
Simmered Mixed Potatoes  
Garlic Bread

## WEDNESDAY

**LUNCH:** Wild Turkey Chili  
Kansas City BBQ Brisket  
Southern-fried Catfish  
Baked Macaroni & Cheese  
Oven-browned Potatoes  
Glazed Carrots

**DINNER:** Yankee Pot Roast  
Pork Teriyaki Stir Fry  
Confetti Rice  
Roast Potato Wedges  
Green Beans  
Corn



# Eggstravaganza

## at the Youth Center



# Saturday, April 11

# 1000-1300

**Easter Egg Hunt at the Youth Center.**  
**This is a family event and all ages are welcome. The cost is \$1.00 per person.**  
**Grab your Easter Baskets and come hunt for Easter Eggs.**



**For more info call 269.5390 or visit [www.mccsyuma.org](http://www.mccsyuma.org)**





# MWSS-371 wins 2nd annual Airspeed golf tournament



Photo by Lance Cpl. Gregory Aalto

Chris Winger, Ground Services Equipment team member, chips a shot onto the green on the par-3 seventh hole. The second annual Marine Aircraft Group 13 Airspeed golf and awards outing was held April 1 at Las Barrancas Golf Course in the Foothills.

Lance Cpl. Graham J. Benson  
Desert Warrior Staff

Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 emerged victorious in the second annual Marine Aircraft Group 13 Airspeed golf outing April 1 at Las Barrancas Golf Course in Yuma.

The tournament is used as a venue to recognize the MAG-13 Yuma Airspeed Marine and work center of the year in a relaxed setting.

The Airspeed program, which was first implemented in Yuma in 2006, improves and increases workplace efficiency throughout Marine aviation logistics squadrons by training Marines to accomplish logistical missions more effectively.

The 12, four-man teams played 18 holes in “best ball” format, meaning the best shot of the four players is selected as the point to take the next shot from.

MWSS-371 pulled away early and never looked back as they maintained a 3-4 stroke lead throughout the front nine holes.

“We have a pretty experienced team and were able to keep a birdie pace on most holes,” said James Wright, MWSS-371 golf team captain. “We all played in high school and still play frequently.”

With first place seeming secured early in the day, the race for second place became the focus, with six teams battling for position throughout the 18 holes.

The competitors enjoyed sunny skies, although a stiff westerly wind proved to be treacherous in the tee box.

Almost every team faltered when they encountered the tough, par-3 seventh hole, with its large, left-side water hazard.

“That was one tough hole,” said Ryan Darlin, Ground Services Equipment team member. “I don’t think one of our guys survived that one without getting a little wet. We were doing pretty well until that one hurt us. The wind was a little troublesome. Other than that it was a beautiful day to play golf though.”

The final scorecard showed MWSS-371 claiming first place with an impressive 15-under-par at 57.

Only the first and last place finishers were awarded prizes. Each first place team member received a complementary round of golf at the course and a box of golf balls. The last place MALS-13 headquarters team received a set of swimming goggles for each team member, due to their extended time spent in the water hazard.

The golf tournament was followed by a luncheon and awards ceremony, as well as a message from Col. Steve Franklin, Headquarters Marine Corps director of aviation logistics.

“Yuma Airspeed Marines are leading the way in efficiency development. Ground logistics units will be coming to their aviation counterparts for help implementing Airspeed principles for years to come, so be ready. It’s about providing the capabilities, not just the parts,” said Franklin.

He followed his remarks by presenting the awards for Airspeed Marine and work center of the year.

MALS-13 consumable management division won the work center award, and Staff Sgt. John Baxley, MALS-13 production control chief, took the Marine of the year honors.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Graham J. Benson

Ryan Darlin, Ground Services Equipment team member, follows through on his drive from Las Barrancas Golf Course’s par-4 fifth hole April 1. Team GSE finished sixth in the 12-team competition with a 7-under-par 64.